

# Planning Services Performance

## Strategic Planning Committee

19 October 2023

Alison Blom-Cooper

Assistant Director Strategic Place and Planning



**Somerset**  
Council

# Planning Services Performance

- This presentation sets out performance information provided on a quarterly basis to the Strategic Planning Committee in line with the Council's constitution
- It includes information on the volume of work received by each of the area teams and the waste and minerals team and reports the information published nationally on a quarterly basis on the meeting of the national targets.
- The data in the presentation, extracted from the Appendix document, includes the position as at the end of Q1 of 2023/24 and future reports will continue to disaggregate the information as well as providing the overall position.

# Introduction to Planning Services Performance

The presentation will cover the following:

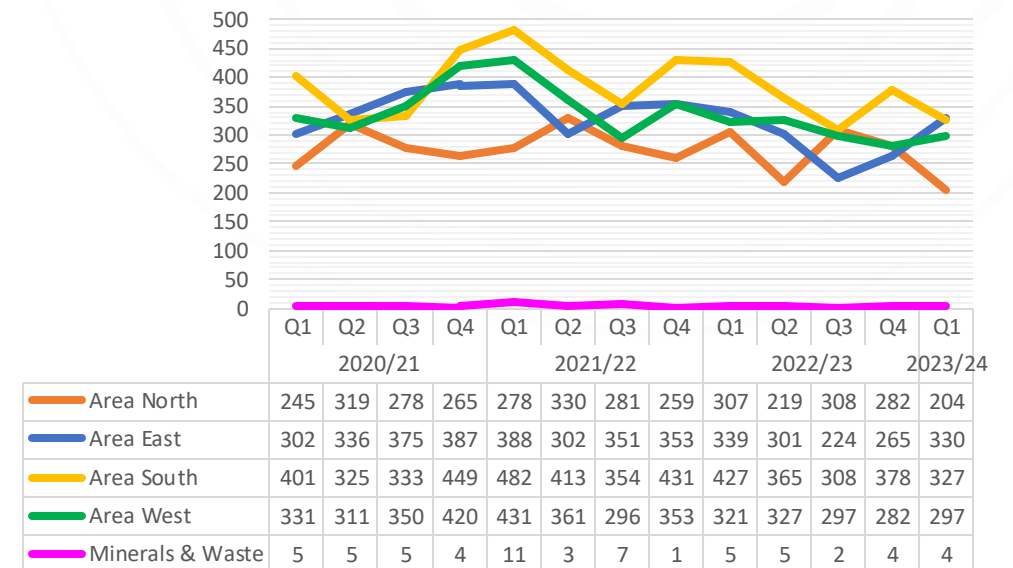
- ✓ Planning applications received by Somerset Council by area from 2020/21 to Q1 of 2023/24;
- ✓ Major, minor and other applications determined within the national targets for Q1 of 2023/24;
- ✓ Pre-application enquiries;
- ✓ Appeal decisions;
- ✓ Enforcement cases on hand and resolved/closed;

# Number of planning applications received by Somerset Council by area from 2020/21 to Q1 of 2023/24

## All Areas

	2020/21					2021/22					2022/23					2023/24					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	
Area North	245	319	278	265	1107	278	330	281	259	1148	307	219	308	282	1116	204					204
Area East	302	336	375	387	1400	388	302	351	353	1394	339	301	224	265	1129	330					330
Area South	401	325	333	449	1508	482	413	354	431	1680	427	365	308	378	1478	327					327
Area West	331	311	350	420	1412	431	361	296	353	1441	321	327	297	282	1227	297					297
Minerals & Waste	5	5	5	4	19	11	3	7	1	22	5	5	2	4	16	4					4

No. of applications received by quarter (all Areas)



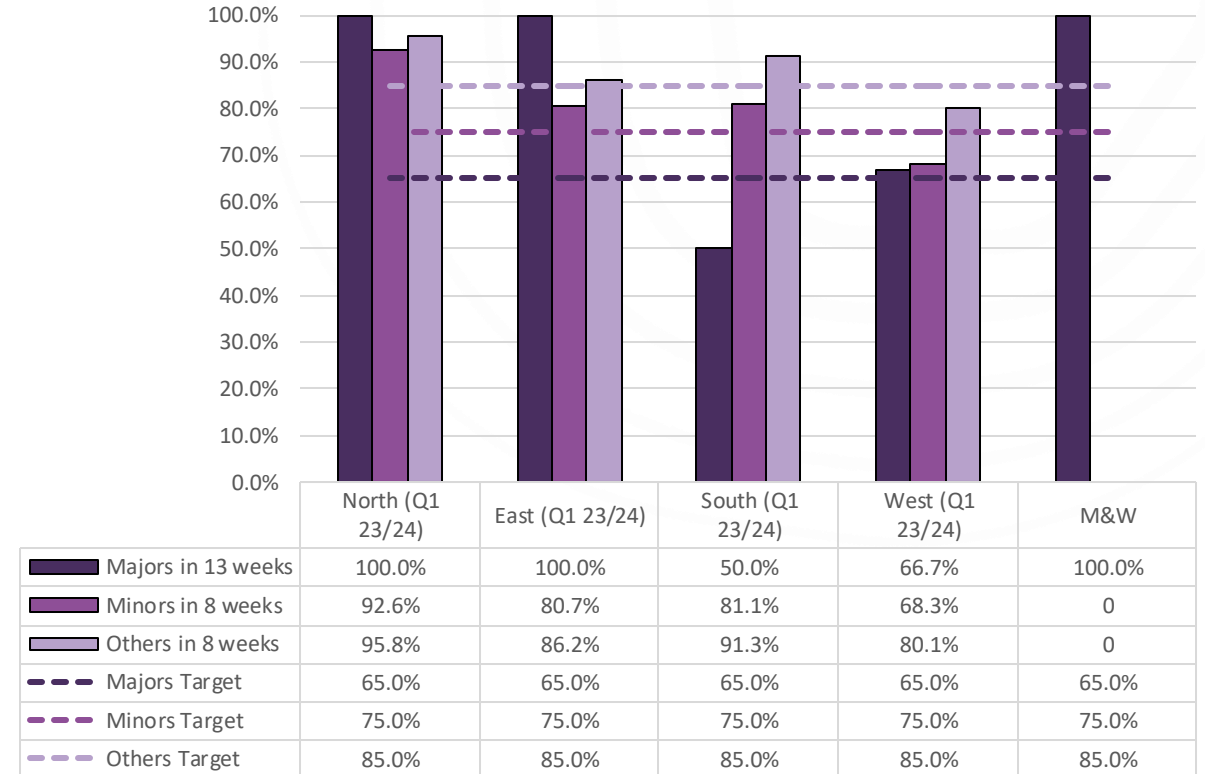
# Major, minor and other applications determined within the national targets for Q4 of 2022/23

## All Areas

The performance of local authorities in determining applications is measured nationally and reported quarterly via statistical returns to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The Government has set targets for the determination of planning applications as follows:

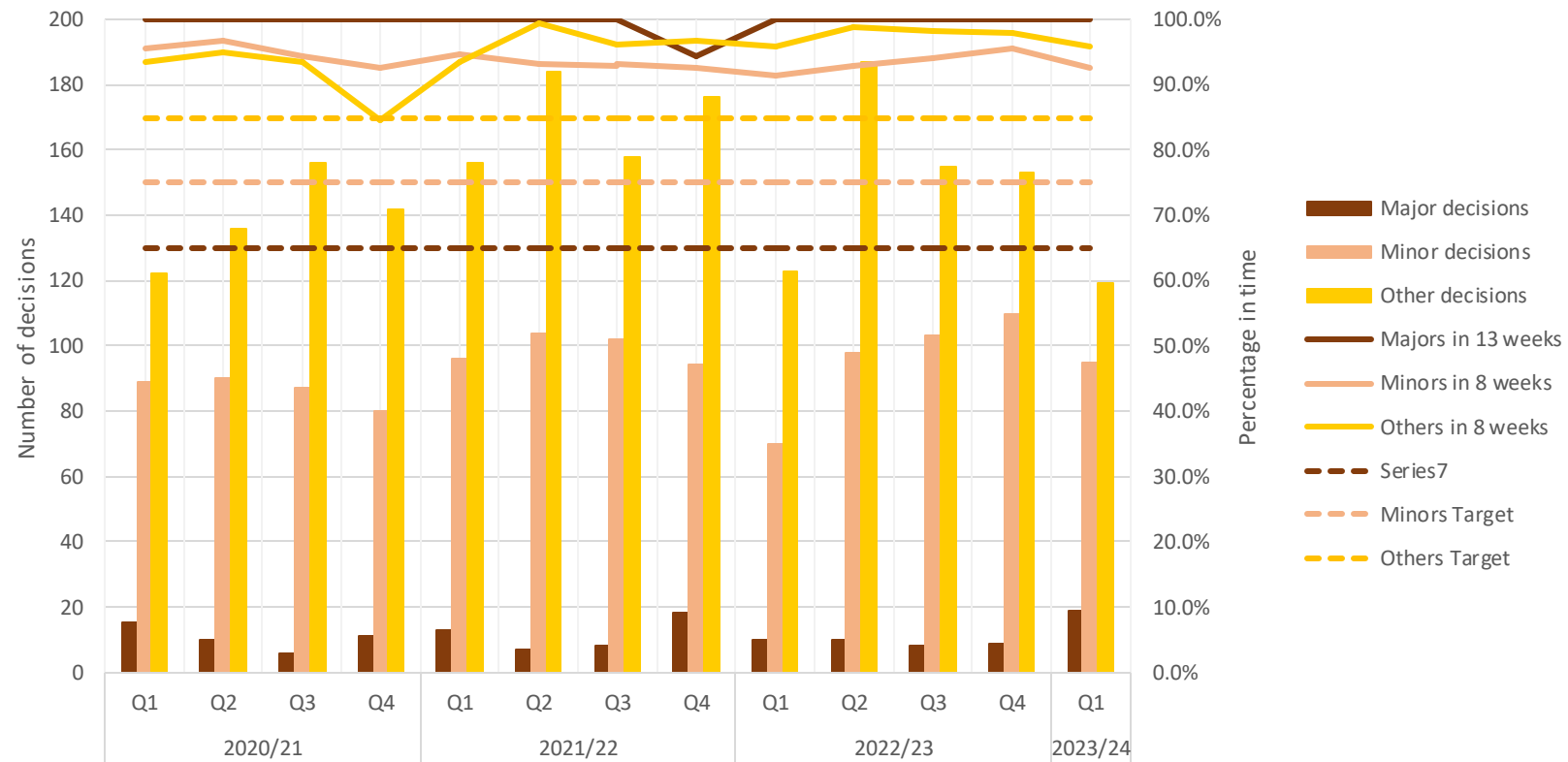
- Determine 65% of major applications within 13 weeks (or 16 weeks in the case of EIA development);
- Determine 75% of minor applications within eight weeks;
- Determine 85% of other applications within eight weeks

The diagram shows the performance for the last published quarter i.e., Q1 of 2023/24.



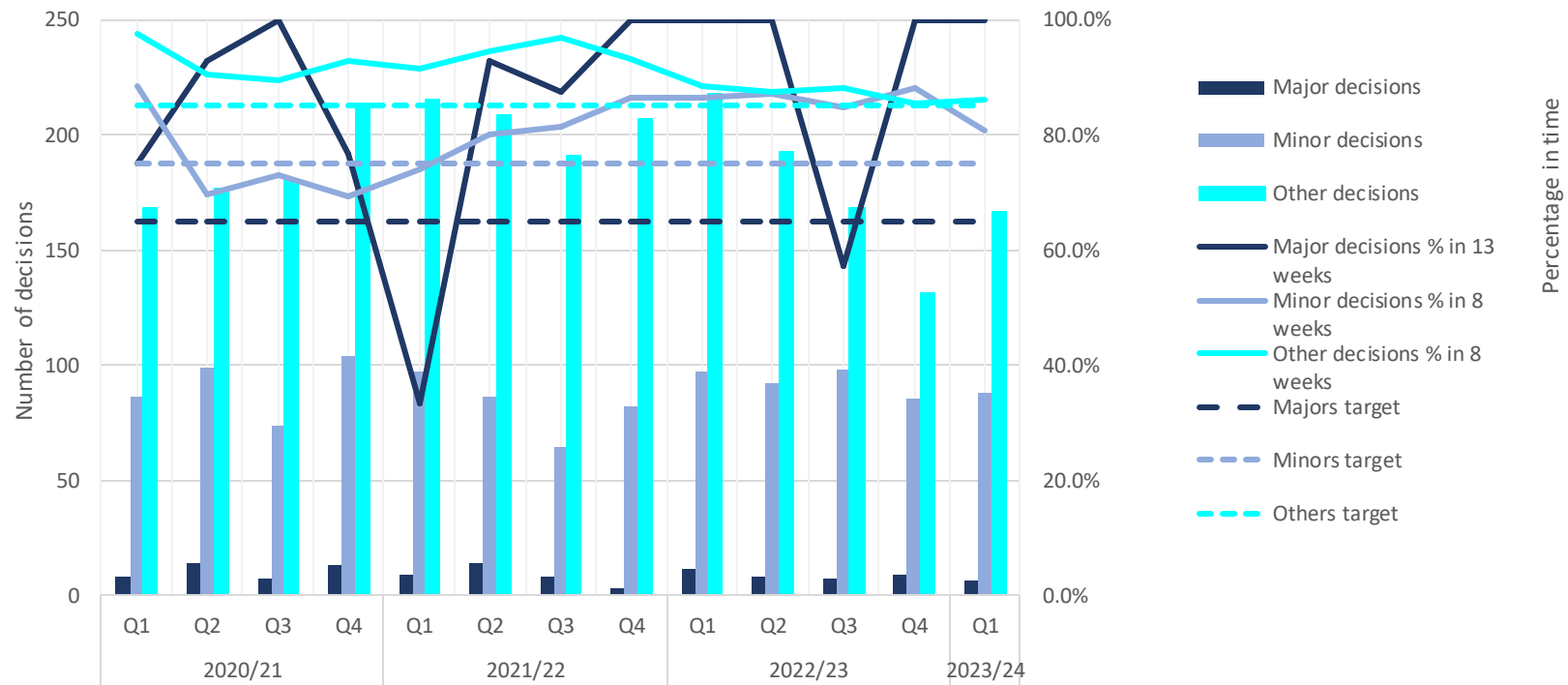
# Area North: 2020/21 - Q1 of 2023/24

Percentage of decisions determined in time (16 weeks for applications with EIA) for Area North by quarter



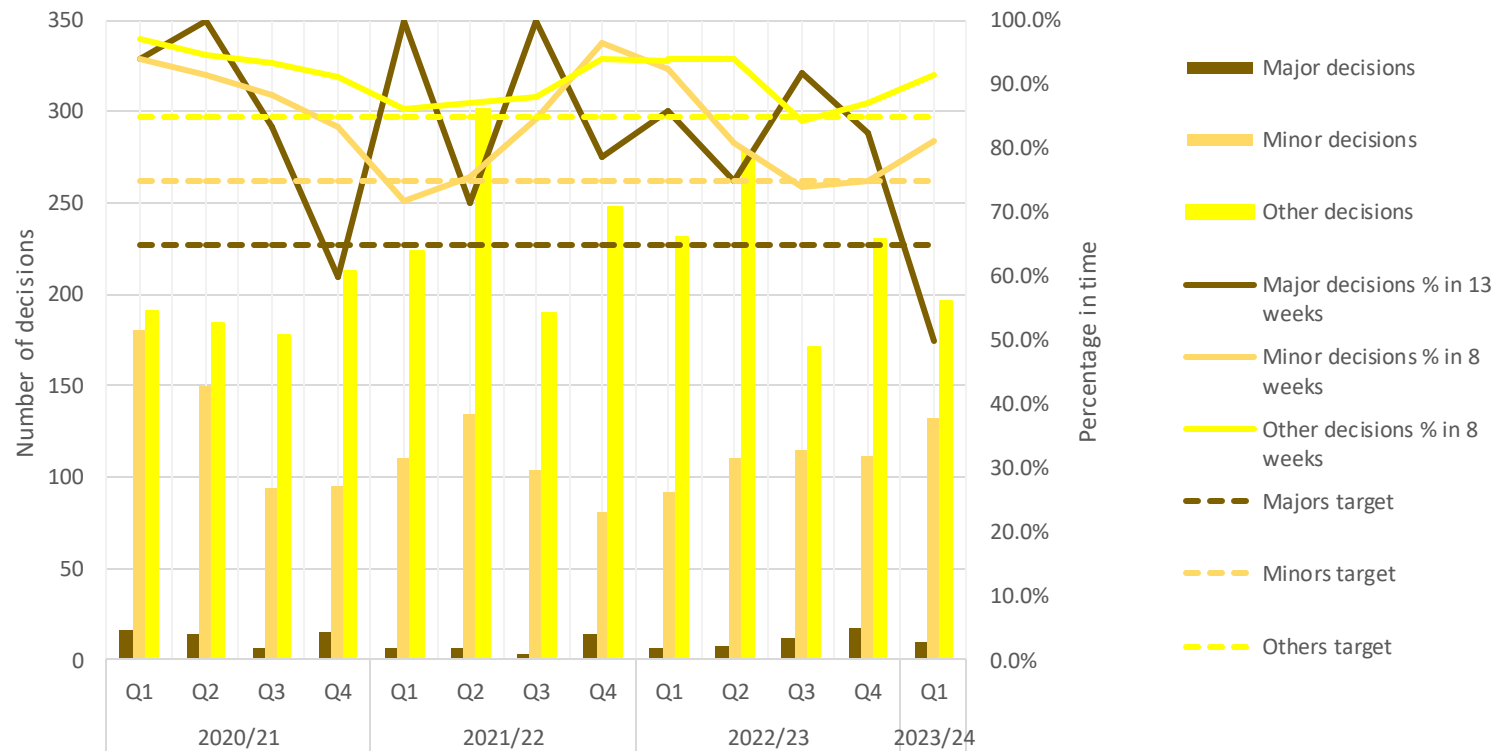
# Area East: 2020/21 - Q1 of 2023/24

Percentage of major, minor and other decisions determined in 13 weeks (16 weeks for EIA applications) for Area East by quarter



# Area South: 2020/21 – Q1 of 2023/24

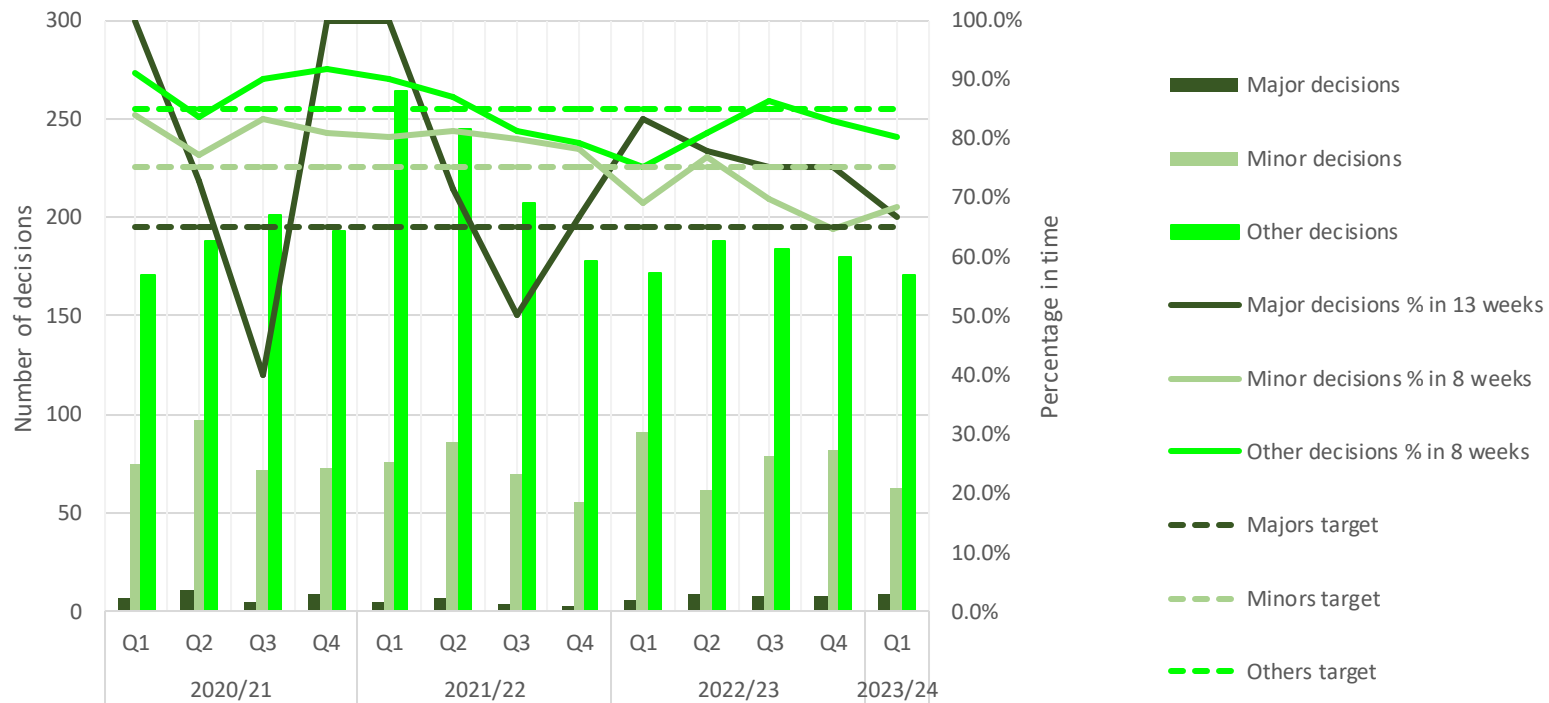
Percentage of major decisions determined in 13 weeks (16 weeks for applications with EIA) for Area South by quarter





# Area West: 2020/21- Q1 of 2023/24

Percentage of major decisions determined in 13 weeks (16 weeks for applications with EIA) for Area West by quarter



# Two year rolling figures

## Minerals & Waste and All Areas

The two-year rolling figures for percentage of decisions determined within the national target or agreed time are shown for all Areas and for County Matters. The data reflects the previous 24 months up to the end of June 2023 for County Matters. The Somerset wide figure is for Q1 of 2023 only but figures for the former Districts are for the previous 24 months. The two year rolling figures are important to note because the threshold for designation by government is not making 50% or more decisions on major applications in time or 70% of minor or other applications in time over this period.

Majors Determined	Two year rolling figure: 24 months to the end of June 2023
England	91.1
Somerset Minerals and Waste (New Data – Quarter 1 only)	100

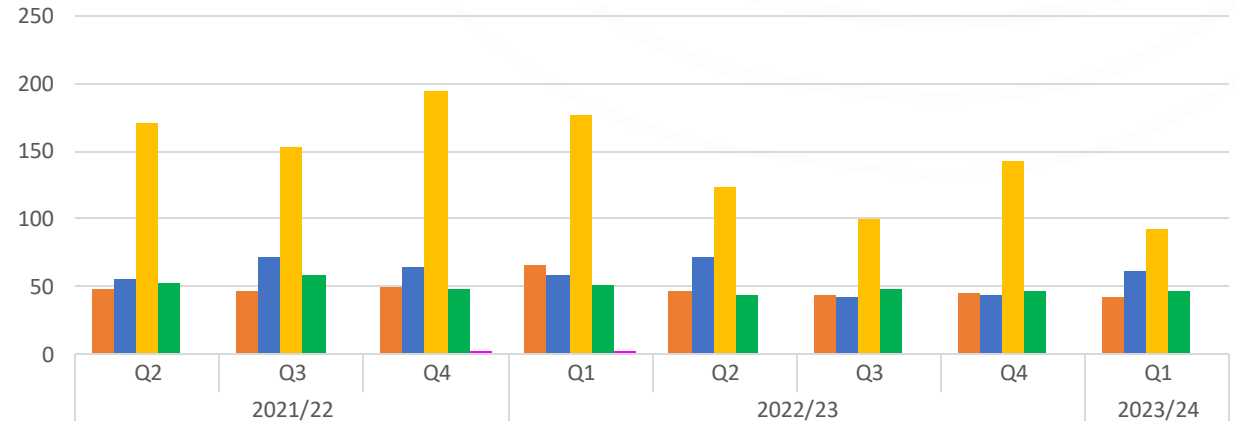
All Areas rolling annual % vs. rolling annual % for England for 24 months to end of June 2023	Major decisions (% within 13 weeks or within agreed time)	Minor decisions (% within 8 weeks or within agreed time)
England	86.8	85.4
Somerset (New Data – Quarter 1 only)	81.8	85.9
Area East (Mendip)	92.4	83.5
Area North (Sedgemoor)	98.9	94.4
Area West (Somerset West and Taunton)	72.0	79.4
Area South (South Somerset)	78.2	86.5

# Pre-applications enquiries

## All Areas

	2021/22					2022/23					2023/24
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1
Area North	62	48	46	49	205	66	46	44	45	201	42
Area East	46	56	72	65	239	58	72	42	44	216	62
Area South	207	171	153	195	726	176	124	100	142	542	93
Area West	56	53	59	48	216	51	44	48	47	190	46
Minerals and Waste	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	0	3	1

No. of pre-application enquires received and validated by quarter for all Areas



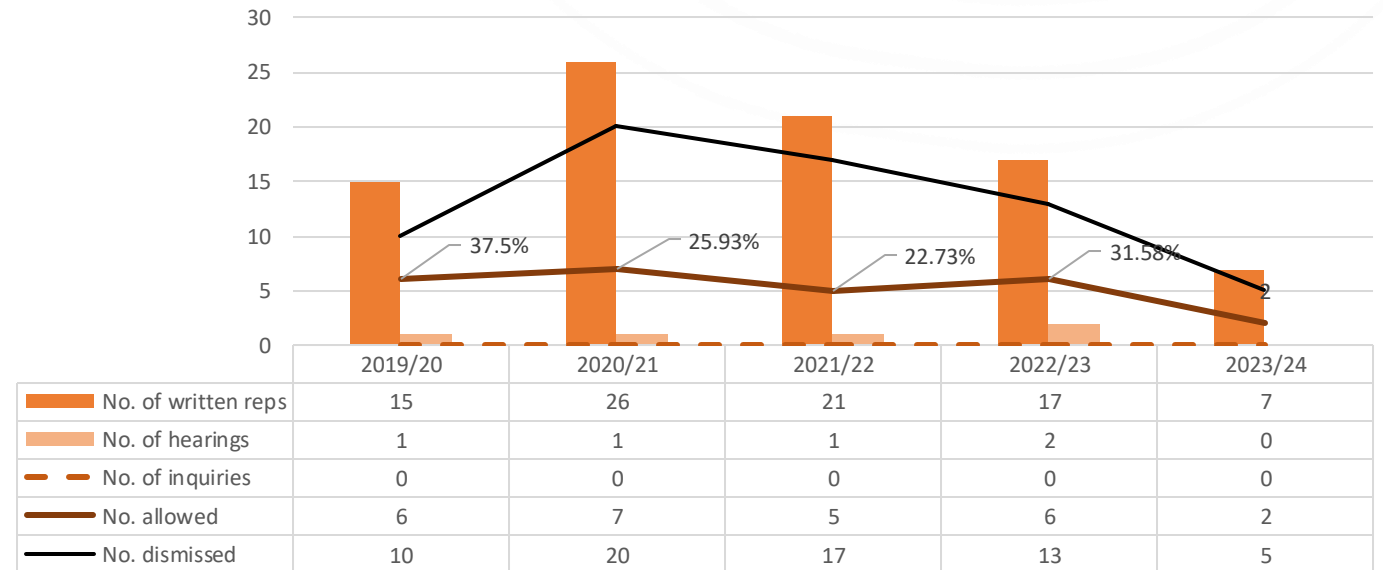
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
	2021/22			2022/23				2023/24
Area North	48	46	49	66	46	44	45	42
Area East	56	72	65	58	72	42	44	62
Area South	171	153	195	176	124	100	142	93
Area West	53	59	48	51	44	48	47	46
Minerals and Waste	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	1

# Appeal decisions

## Area North

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	15	1	0	10	62.50%	6	37.50%	16
2020/21	26	1	0	20	74.07%	7	25.93%	27
2021/22	21	1	0	17	77.27%	5	22.73%	22
2022/23	17	2	0	13	68.42%	6	31.58%	19
2023/24(Q1)	7	0	0	5	71.43%	2	28.57%	7

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area North)

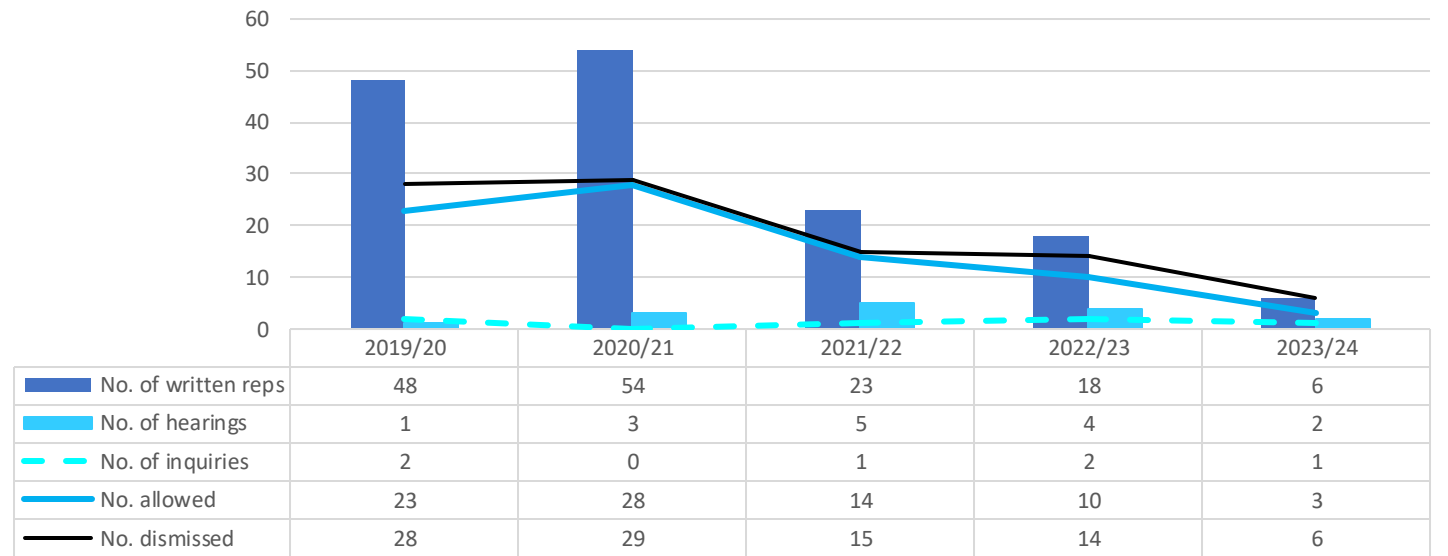


# Appeal decisions

## Area East

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
<b>2019/20</b>	48	1	2	28	54.90%	23	45.10%	<b>51</b>
<b>2020/21</b>	54	3	0	29	50.88%	28	49.12%	<b>57</b>
<b>2021/22</b>	23	5	1	15	51.72%	14	48.28%	<b>29</b>
<b>2022/23</b>	18	4	2	14	58.33%	10	41.66%	<b>24</b>
<b>2023/24 (Q1)</b>	6	2	1	6	66.67%	3	33.33%	<b>9</b>

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area East)

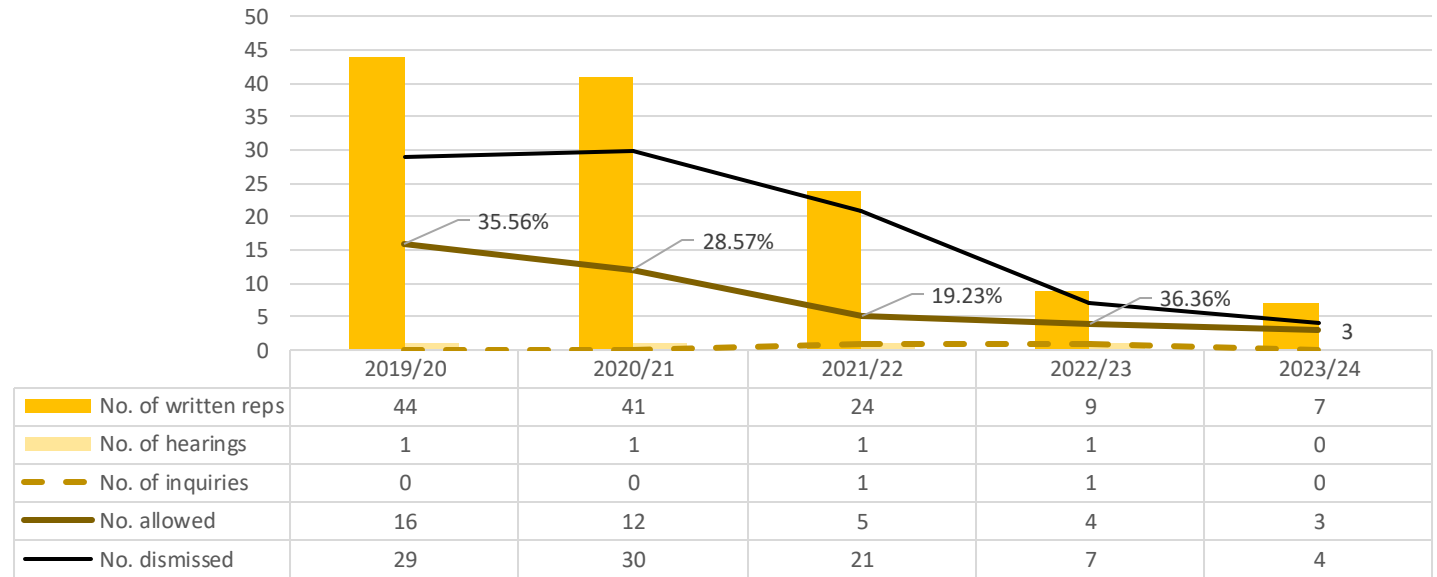


# Appeal decisions

## Area South

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	44	1	0	29	64.44%	16	35.56%	45
2020/21	41	1	0	30	71.43%	12	28.57%	42
2021/22	24	1	1	21	80.77%	5	19.23%	26
2022/23	9	1	1	7	63.64%	4	36.36%	11
2023/24(Q1)	7	0	0	4	57.14%	3	42.86%	7

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area South)

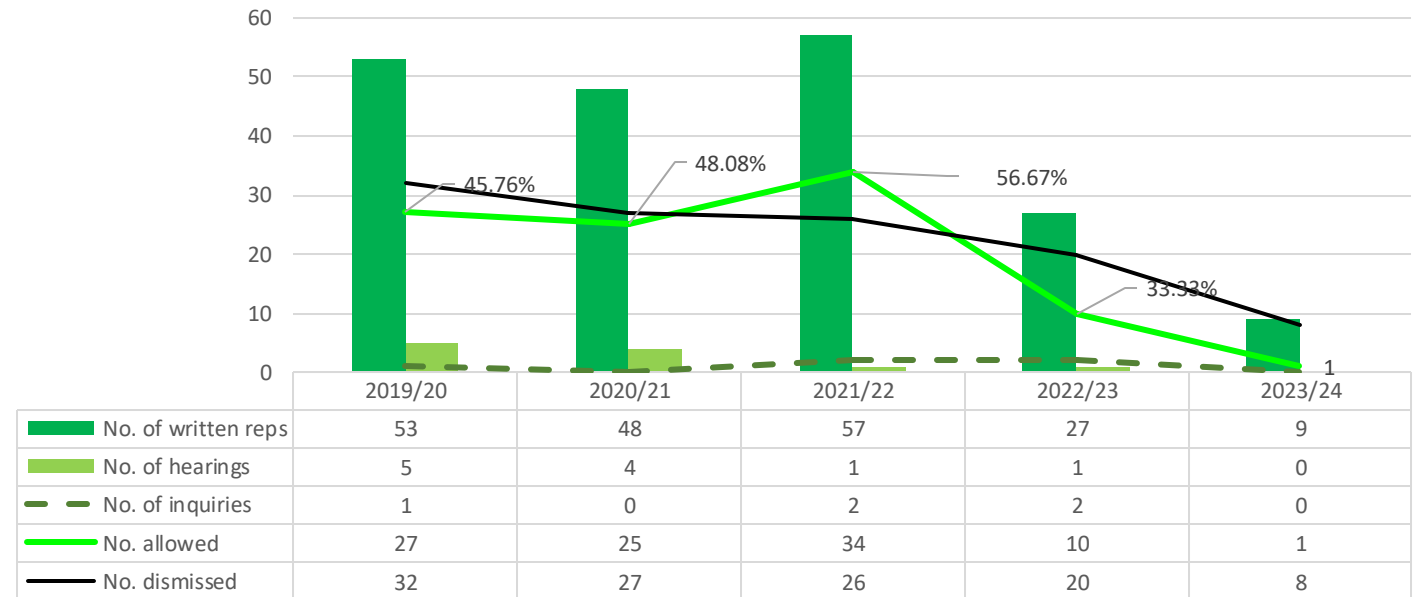


# Appeal decisions

## Area West

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	53	5	1	32	54.24%	27	45.76%	<b>59</b>
2020/21	48	4	0	27	51.92%	25	48.08%	<b>52</b>
2021/22	57	1	2	26	43.33%	34	56.67%	<b>60</b>
2022/23	27	1	2	20	66.67%	10	33.33%	<b>30</b>
2023/24 (Q1)	9	0	0	8	88.89%	1	11.11%	<b>9</b>

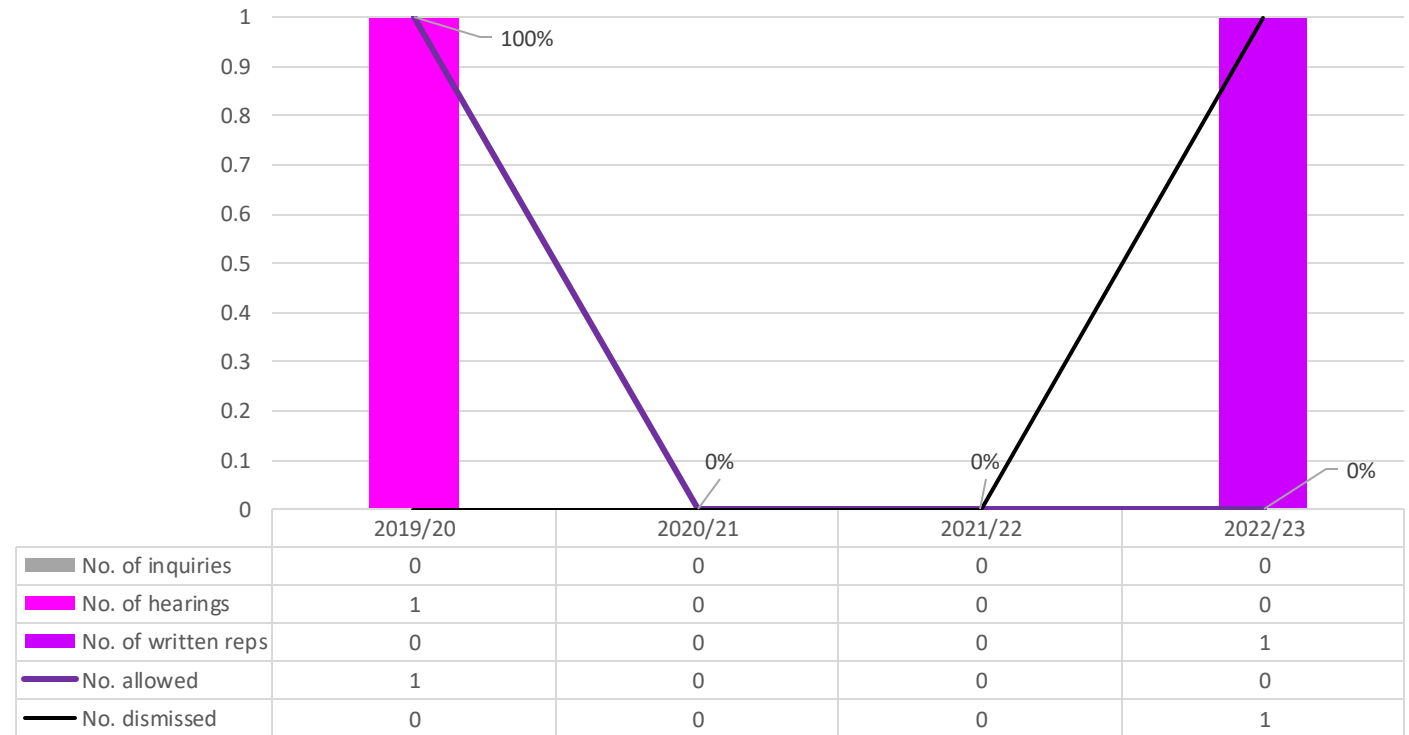
No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area West)



# Appeal decisions

## Minerals & Waste

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	Total decisions	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed
2019/20	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	100.00%
2020/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
2021/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
2022/23	1	0	0	1	1	100%	0	0.00%
2023/24 (Q1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%

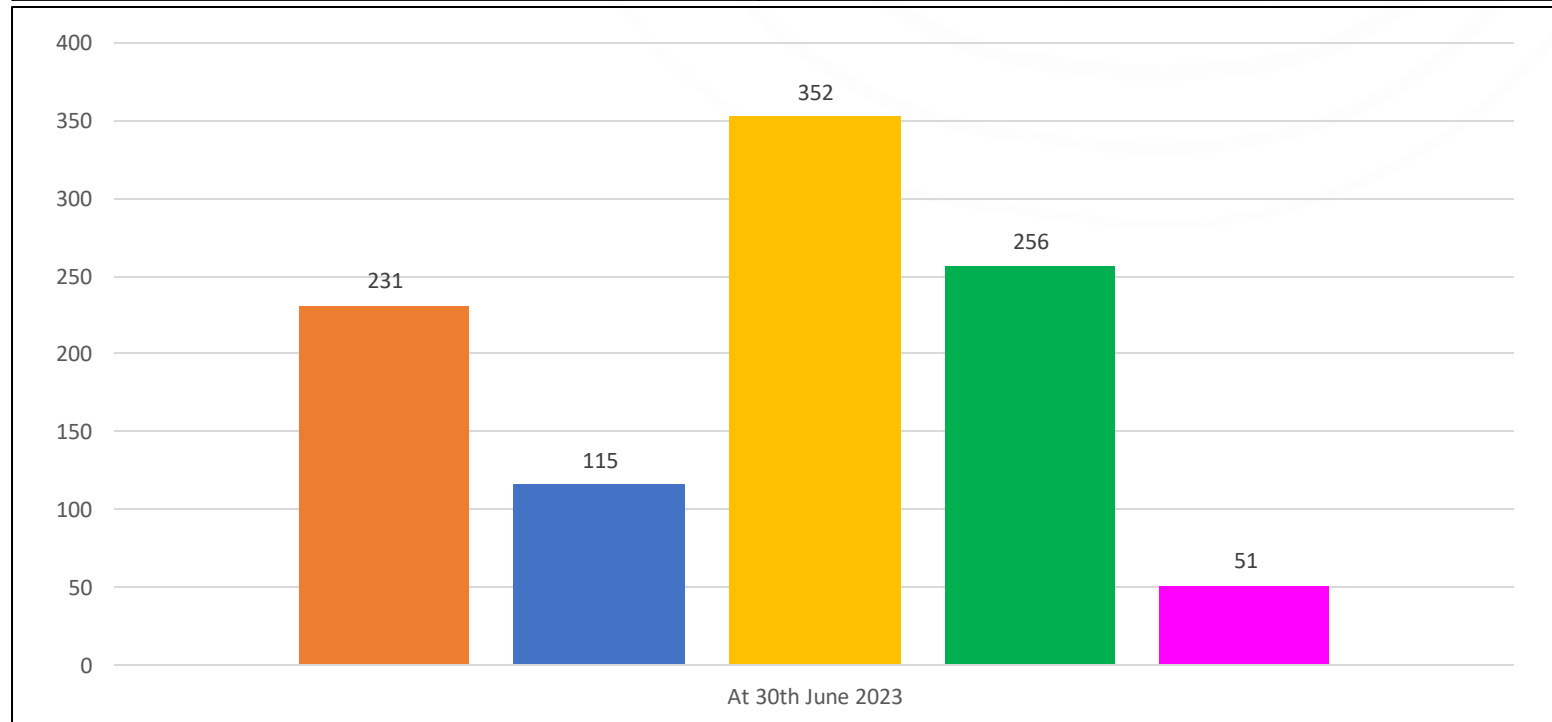




# Enforcement cases as at 30 June 2023

## All Areas

	30 June 2023
Area North	231
Area East	115
Area South	352
Area West	256
Minerals and Waste	51

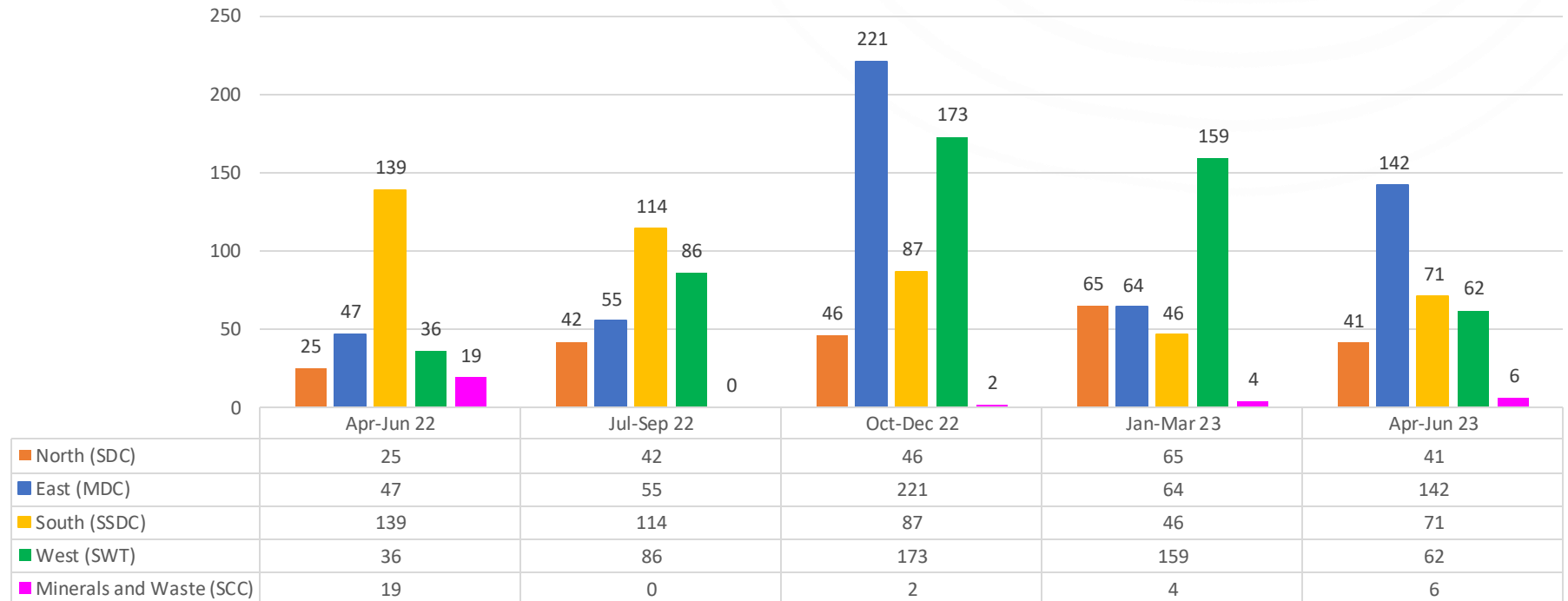


# Enforcement cases resolved/closed

## All Areas

	Apr-Jun 22	Jul-Sep 22	Oct-Dec 22	Jan-Mar 23	Apr-Jun 23
Area North	25	42	46	65	41
Area East	47	55	221	64	142
Area South	139	114	87	46	71
Area West	36	86	173	159	62
Minerals and Waste	19	0	2	4	6

No. of enforcement investigations resolved/closed during each quarter





**Somerset**  
Council